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GI POWs GIVEN PAPER PRINTED BY COMMUNIST

Reveal Propaganda Is Produced Here

BY RONALD KOZIOL

An anti-war newspaper, which is printed in Chicago under the guidance of an identified Communist, is one of two newspapers being distributed to American prisoners of war in Viet Nam for propaganda purposes, The Tribune learned yesterday.

Military intelligence sources disclosed that copies of the Veterans Stars and Stripes for Peace, published by a group known as the Vets for Peace with offices at 431 S. Dearborn st., have been given to POW's in an effort to show that the American people are not behind the GI's in Viet Nam.

Interview Escaped POW's

The information came to light after intelligence officers interviewed scores of GI's who escaped from their communist captors. The GI's related that the only American newspapers they were permitted to read were the Veterans Stars and Stripes, and the National Guardian, which is published in New York and which has been identified by the United States attorney general's office as "an official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia."

Investigators believe the newspapers are first being sent to Cuba, then to Hanoi for distribution to prison camps.

A recent issue of Veterans Stars and Stripes carried pictures showing crowds of alleged GI's and ex-GI's carrying large signs which said, "GI's March for Peace."

Founder Is LeRoy Wolins

Stories in the issue carried headlines such as, "GI Resistance to War Grows," and "GI's Resist Viet War."

One of the founder's of the Vets for Peace and its driving force is LeRoy Wolins, a resident of the Hyde Park area. He organized the group in 1963 and now serves on its executive council.

Wolins was identified as a

Communist in May, 1967 in testimony before the House committee on un-American activities by Miss Lula Belle Holmes of Chicago.

Miss Holmes had held many high posts in the Illinois Communist party from 1946 to 1958, including positions on the state governing board, the press committee, and the party's Negro commission.

Identified as Communist

She told the committee members that she observed Wolins at many closed-door meetings of the state Communist party.

Authorities said that Wolins also served as executive secretary of the Chicago Council for American-Soviet Friendship, which was cited in 1950 by the attorney general as a communist front organization.

Finances Underground Paper

Wolins has engaged in anti-war activities at nearby military bases, including the financing of printing of an underground newspaper called Logistics that was distributed for a short time at Fort Sheridan.

The paper had stories about GI's protesting the war and told of "the major evils of this institution."

Wolins' current activities include helping to organize a national anti-war conference to be held in Cleveland the last week-end in June.

MORI/CDF